B.C. MOVES AHEAD WITH $6.6B DAM, PG4

Celebrity Buzz

Madge feeling the glee pg 22

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ICOUVER • TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010

metronews.ca

Canada pg 6

Homolka nears time to ask for pardon

# City mulls separate bike lanes downtown

**SAFETY** Vancouver is considering constructing separated cyclist lanes through its Downtown core — eliminating some parking or driving lanes — to connect existing bike routes over the Burrard Street Bridge and Dunsmuir Viaduct.

Coun. Geoff Meggs said the separated bike lanes and the sense of safety that they offer are essential if the city wants to attract more cyclists.

"We've been stuck for some time with a less than ideal number of people cycling downtown," said Meggs yesterday.

Vancouver's cycle mode share has stalled at five to six per cent.

"To get past where we are now, all the evidence points to safety issues," he said. "Not only is it not too safe to ride in traffic like that, but they realize it's not safe.

"There is a perception of risk that is deterring people from riding."

The first of the two separated routes, if approved, would be built along Dunsmuir Street this summer.

It would be separated from traffic using posts, planters and concrete barriers and would mean decreasing parking spaces and loading zones, relocating bus stops, and introducing turn restrictions at some intersections.

Consultation on the separated routes will continue until the end of April and city staff will report its findings to council in June.

A north-south connection linking the Dunsmuir route with the Burrard Street Bridge and the seawall near the Vancouver Convention Centre, would be constructed along either Thurlow, Burrard or Hornby streets.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

ShareYourViews
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Playoffs **Kings celebrate**

MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Kings celebrate a goal by defenceman Drew Doughty as Vancouver Canucks left wing Alex Burrows skates by during the first period in Game 3 of a first-round NHL hockey Western Conference playoff series, last night, in Los Angeles. The Kings took a 2-1 lead in the quarter finals series with a 5-3 win at the Staples Centre. Coverage, page 14.

# Vancouver sending mixed smoke signals

## Some ready for cannabis party as smoking banned in parks

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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**As many as 10,000 people are expected to smoke up en masse outside the Vancouver Art Gallery today — but they won't get in trouble, it's not tobacco.**

Last night, Vancouver's park board commissioners voted unanimously to ban smoking cigarettes at local parks, beaches and playgrounds.

Smoking marijuana, on the other hand, while illegal, is still widely tolerated — at least on this day.

April 20, also known as 420, marks the annual day celebrating cannabis culture and is observed around the world at rallies where pot laws are generally not enforced.

Marc Emery, Vancouver's Prince of Pot, claimed people likely look down on cigarettes more than marijuana because they realize tobacco is more harmful.

But Benedikt Fischer, a professor at Simon Fraser University who specializes in substance use and public health, said the popularity of the rally doesn't prove we're more tolerant of smoking up.

**"Stoned people go and buy pizza and drunk people (get into fights)."**
Jacob Hunter, rally organizer

"Even though (cigarettes are) quite a bit more dangerous ... to public health, we'd never go so far as to make tobacco smokers criminals, but we do with marijuana users and that's what people disagree with," Fischer said.

"That's why you have a lot of support for these rallies."

Regardless of whether we are more tolerant of pot use than cigarette use, 61 per cent of British Columbians feel marijuana should be legalized.

Jacob Hunter, organizer of Vancouver's pot rally, said he thinks that number is going to continue to grow.

"Stoned people go and buy pizza and drunk people (get into fights)," he said.

Hunter said marijuana should be legalized, regulated and taxed like alcohol.

As for the gathering, he called the atmosphere "relaxed" and "friendly."

"It's like a picnic with a lot of people smoking pot," he said.

Vancouver Police Const. Lindsey Houghton said officers will be "visible" but that they're there to ensure safety, not enforce drug laws.

"It's not our priority to intervene," he said. "There were no problems last year and we're not anticipating any this year."

Emery, who is facing extradition to the United States for selling marijuana seeds online, said he expected to be in a prison during this year's rally.

"I had no idea I'd be here for Christmas, birthdays and Valentine's, and to be here for April 20 is an exhilarating feeling," he said.

### Cigarettes

- For more on the cigarette smoking ban at Vancouver parks, beaches and playgrounds, see page 3.

## Clinton to give speech in city on May 20

**ADDRESS** Former U.S. president Bill Clinton is coming to Vancouver next month to deliver a speech at the Board of Trade.

The event at The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts on May 20 is titled Embracing our Common Humanity. Clinton's keynote address will be followed by a conversation with former B.C. finance minister Carole Taylor.

The visit will be Clinton's fifth to Vancouver. Tickets range from $99 to $559 and can be purchased at boardoftrade.com.

METRO VANCOUVER

Food pg 19

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SCANLIFE

# Local

## Canucks plan Tweetup

**The Vancouver Canucks are holding a Tweetup — a gathering of people who use Twitter — to watch Game 4 of the quarter-finals against the Los Angeles Kings tomorrow evening at Library Square. One attendee will win tickets to Game 5 on Friday at GM Place.**

METRO VANCOUVER

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## News in brief

**SHOOTING** Vancouver Police were at a home in the 1700 block of East 34th Avenue yesterday afternoon after receiving 911 calls of shots fired. Shell casings were found, but no injuries were reported.

METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Immigration** Guidy Mamann on the perils of determining 'genuine' relationships at **metronews.ca/immigration**

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WESTON STEELE/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Miriam Garcia lights up at English Bay yesterday. Garcia has mixed feelings about the smoking ban.

## Park board approves no-smoking bylaw

WESTON STEELE
for Metro Vancouver

**HEALTH** The Vancouver Park Board passed a bylaw last night banning smoking in city beaches, parks and playgrounds.

It takes effect Sept. 1.

Park board commissioner Raj Hundal said the initiative is meant to support healthy living and wellness.

Smokers will have the summer-long grace period until the ban is enforced, but smoker Ty Gibson said the restrictions are getting on his nerves.

"That leaves me with my own apartment," he said at English Bay.

"I'll smoke in my closet then, (I'll) be a closet smoker."

But smoker Miriam Garcia, originally from Mexico, said she has mixed feelings.

"It's good because you ... don't smell of smoke."

# 'Music meant everything'

## You Say Party! We Say Die! drummer remembered for incredible generosity

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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**Devon Clifford, drummer for Abbotsford dance-punk band You Say Party! We Say Die!, died of a massive brain hemorrhage that was the result of undetected congenital defects, his family announced in a statement.**

Clifford, who would have turned 31 on Friday, collapsed on stage at the Rickshaw Theatre in the Downtown Eastside on April 16.

He fell into a coma and doctors performed surgery but were unable to save him. He died on Sunday.

"Devon Clifford was an extremely gifted drummer and determined character," the band's publicist, Darryl Weeks, said in the statement.

**"He loved his family, loved his band, loved travelling."**
Darryl Weeks, publicist

"He loved his family, loved his band, loved travelling, loved being on stage and loved meeting people around the world. He was smart, witty, passionate, and music meant everything to him. He was also incredibly generous with his love and respected everybody he came into contact with."

In the statement, Clifford's family reminded young people "to have the courage to follow their dreams like Devon did."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Olympics hike Canada's tourism numbers**

Driven by increases in travellers entering Olympics-obsessed British Columbia, travel to Canada rose 5.2 per cent in February from the previous month. Statistics Canada attributes the increase to Vancouver's Winter Olympics, noting 24 per cent more non-residents entered Canada via British Columbia during the month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# First Nations community warned of wolves

**WILDLIFE** Officials have issued a warning to residents of a B.C. First Nations community following a wolf attack on a pet dog and numerous sightings of the predators this spring.

A wolf that appeared to be thin and sick attacked a small white dog in Metlakatla, near Prince Rupert.

The wolf was shot as it tried to escape with the domestic animal in its jaws.

Monica Ryan-Gamble, the governance clerk for Metlakatla band council, said more wolves have made their way into the community since the incident April 11.

"Usually when a wolf is shot, we don't see any further wolf activity for a while. But this past week, we've had four wolf sightings in the past five days," she said.

Wolf sightings normally increase this time of year as locals venture outside more. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Amid cutbacks, schools uniting to celebrate arts

**EDUCATION** A countrywide sing-song that involves 180 B.C. schools is being organized to celebrate the arts as education officials make cuts to address budget shortfalls.

Norman Mould, president of the Coalition for Music Education in B.C., is helping organize Music Monday on May 3.

School board trustees are likely to "(cut) programs that they see as frills," he said.

Mould said music programs give students skills such as self-discipline and problem solving that they need when applying for jobs later in life.

In Vancouver, where the school board is facing an $18-million deficit, more than 300 people rallied near Empire Field yesterday.

They said that money being spent on rebuilding Empire Stadium and on a new roof for B.C. Place should instead be given to the school board, according to news1130.com.

With next year's budget due to be finalized by May 1, the B.C. government, unhappy with how the Vancouver School Board is spending its funding, has appointed comptroller general Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland to review expenditures. LAURA FORTEY/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

# Tentative deal keeps fuel flowing

**YVR** Tentative settlement of a contract dispute means jet fuel is flowing for Air Canada, WestJet and several other airlines at Vancouver International Airport.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada says a tentative agreement has been reached with Servisair, which operates as GlobeGround Fuel Service at YVR. Union regional vice-president Kay Sinclair says the deal came Saturday, just hours after lockout notice expired.

Arrangements for a ratification vote have not been released.

Seventy-three Servisair fuellers and mechanics at YVR were ready to strike. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier Gordon Campbell, right, and Brad Bennett, grandson of W.A.C. Bennett, in front of the W.A.C. Bennett Dam in Hudson's Hope, B.C., yesterday.

# Site C moves ahead

## Opponents condemn decision on $6.6B dam

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**The province is moving forward with a controversial third large-scale hydro dam on the Peace River in Northeastern B.C.**

The estimated $6.6-billion Site C dam is entering a two-year regulatory review — the third of five stages — that includes an environmental assessment and consultation with local Treaty 8 First Nations.

Some environmentalists, First Nations and area residents, however, hotly contest the dam's construction, as it would flood more than 5,000 hectares of land, including prime agricultural land along the Peace River.

"The decision that we're making today to go into Phase 3 says, 'Yes, we would like to build the Site C dam,'" said Energy Minister Blair Lekstrom, the MLA for Peace River South.

Site C was originally proposed in the 1970s (and re-examined in the late '80s) as a third hydroelectric dam on the Peace River, located downstream from the W.A.C. Bennett and Peace Canyon dams, about seven kilometres from Fort St. John.

Construction would create more than 7,600 jobs as well as an estimated 35,000 direct and indirect jobs over the 100-year life of the project.

NDP energy critic John Horgan said New Democrats are opposed to the proposed dam, but are in favour of the environmental assessment.

"Let's stop the shadow boxing, swinging at ghosts," said Horgan. "Let's have some hard data on the table so people can make up their minds."

Environmental groups, including the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Committee, issued statements condemning the announcement. The Council of Treaty 8 Chiefs also issued a press release expressing their frustration and outrage.

"The Site C dam reservoir will cause irrevocable damage to fish and wildlife habitats, local agriculture, and flooding of important cultural and archaeological sites," said Chief Lynett Tsakoza.

The proposed 900-megawatt dam, which Premier Gordon Campbell called a "heritage power plant," would be owned by B.C. Hydro and would generate 4,600 gigawatts of electricity annually, enough for 410,000 homes. It would be a decade before the dam begins operation.

### Growing demand

- The province estimates that in the next 20 years, the population will increase by one million and energy consumption will rise between 20 and 40 per cent.

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# Dine Out Vancouver a chance to eat, drink and be merry

**RESTAURANTS** More than 52,000 menu views were recorded within the first eight hours of reservations being open for Dine Out Vancouver, according to the city's tourism office.

"Last year we had (such) an overwhelming response to the online (reservation) launch that our website crashed," said Amber Sessions of Tourism Vancouver.

The 11-day event, which features 207 restaurants, runs from April 26 to May 6. Participating restaurants serve three-course dinners for $18, $28 and $38.

New this year is Tasty Tours and Edible Events, which offers 35 daytime culinary events.

Cooking classes, wine-pairing lessons and market tours, to name a few, give Dine Out Vancouver more of a "food festival feel," said Lucas Pavan of Tourism Vancouver in a release.

Diners can also make reservations and rate their experiences by downloading a smartphone application from tourismvancouver.com. That makes people eligible for various prizes.

LAURA FORTEY/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

## News in brief

Suspect

**UPDATE** Surrey RCMP have released an updated description and composite drawing, right, of a suspect in the knife-point assault of a woman in her home. The attack occurred in the 92 Avenue and 124 Street area.

**BLOOD** Police are investigating the discovery of a pool of blood found in the lobby of a Ridge Meadows apartment. RCMP said they have reason to believe a "serious incident" may have taken place at Sunrise Apartments. Anyone with information is asked to call 604-463-6251. METRO NEWS SERVICES

**Masquerade to go this Friday**
The Vancouver Art Gallery is holding its major fundraiser, Masquerade, this Friday. It'll celebrate the closing of Leonardo da Vinci: The Mechanics of Man and feature some of Vancouver's top restaurants and former Cirque du Soleil acrobats. The $225 ticket includes a mask. METRO VANCOUVER

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER FILE PHOTOS

TransLink has launched a UBC Line rapid transit study to examine six different options, including buses, streetcars and rapid rail, for the future of the Broadway corridor.

# TransLink mulls six options for Broadway

JEFF HODSON
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**TransLink is considering six different transit alternatives for future growth along Vancouver's busy Broadway corridor.**

Options for growth along the well-travelled arterial between Commercial Drive and the University of B.C include expanded bus service, SkyTrain and even streetcars, like the demonstration "Olympic Line" that connected the Canada Line to Granville Island during the 2010 Games.

"This is long overdue," Vancouver Coun. Geoff Meggs said yesterday. "It's great news that they're getting it narrowed down."

Alternatives that are being considered:

- Bus Rapid Transit that is separated from regular traffic and would have connections to SkyTrain and Canada Line.
- Streetcars along Broadway connecting to the Commercial Drive SkyTrain or along Great Northern Way to VCC-Clark.
- Streetcars down Broadway with two branches, one that snakes along the Olympic Line to Main Street-Science World and the other connecting with either Commercial Drive station or VCC-Clark.
- SkyTrain to UBC from either Commercial Drive, or an extension of the Millennium Line from VCC-Clark.
- A combination of SkyTrain from Commercial Drive to Arbutus and streetcar from Arbutus to UBC.
- Improving bus service without a major infrastructure investment.

**Online**

- To view transit options, comment, or take part in a workshop, visit bepartofthe plan.ca.

Meggs said rapid transit through the Broadway business district would carry about 150,000 riders a day — more than the Canada Line and second only to the original Expo Line.

"We've postponed this investment longer than we really should have," Meggs said.

TransLink spokeswoman Judy Rudin said the UBC Line rapid transit study is a first step that aims to consult with people about future transit planning along the corridor.

She encouraged people to take part in one of the five public workshops that will be held in the city between Thursday and May 13.

# G-force overwhelmed luger, report claims

**DEATH** Gravitational force overpowered out-of-control Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili and left him unable to avoid the crash that claimed his life hours before the opening ceremony at the Vancouver Olympics, the International Luge Federation concluded in a report yesterday.

Still, the FIL insisted Kumaritashvili was "absolutely qualified" to be at the Games.

The FIL reaffirmed that the crash was an "unforeseeable fatal accident" caused by a number of factors. It added that Kumaritashvili's sled reacted in ways that computer simulations could not foresee or mimic, the high-speed impact throwing him surprisingly skyward.

"No athlete would have control in dealing with this type of 'catapult' effect," the report said.

Kumaritashvili's death during a training run Feb. 12 was the first at a sanctioned luge track in nearly 35 years.

"You have to make sure this doesn't happen again," FIL secretary general Svein Romstad said. "It's very emotional, even today." THE CANADIAN PRESS

# 41.7 per cent taken in tax, says Fraser

**INDEX** A prominent Vancouver-based think-tank that's often critical of government spending policies says Canadian families spend more than two-fifths of their total income on taxes.

The Fraser Institute says its annual Canadian Consumer Tax Index calculated that taxes ate up 41.7 per cent of the average family's income in 2009. That's up from 1981 when taxes accounted for 40.8 per cent of a family's income, or 33.5 per cent in 1961 when the Fraser Institute first compiled the index. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Celebration of Light in need again?

**FUNDING** The annual Celebration of Light fireworks show may be in need of sponsors again.

"(Funding) has always been an issue," said Shawn Thomas of the Vancouver Fireworks Festival Society.

"Last year we did cancel (the event)," said Thomas. "(Then,) at the last minute a couple of individuals through their companies did come forward."

While Thomas said his group won't be ready to release details about this year's show until at least the end of this week, a former organizer said the 20th edition of the festival may not happen.

Ray Greenwood claimed that about $350,000 is still needed. The Celebration of Light, formerly known as the Benson and Hedges Symphony of Fire, has had funding issues since the federal government passed legislation forbidding tobacco companies from having their names as part of the title of events.

LAURA FORTEY/
METRO VANCOUVER

## News in brief

**SPRAY** Some Richmond residents are concerned about the health effects of chemicals being used to combat the gypsy moth, news1130.com reports. The aerial spraying will be done next week.

**FINE** One of the province's biggest importers of traditional Chinese medicines was fined $10,000 for violating the Wild Animal and Plant Protection Act for failing to have a permit for a protected plant species.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Finance boss to review mail-out

**HST** B.C. Finance Minister Colin Hansen says Elections B.C. will review a planned government mailing on the controversial harmonized sales tax to make sure it's not campaigning against an anti-HST initiative.

Hansen says the material will be part of the annual post-budget package government sends to B.C. residents, and won't mention the campaign led by former premier Bill Vander Zalm aimed at having the tax repealed. Organizers of the anti-HST initiative have already filed a complaint with Elections B.C. over the mail-out, even though the information package is still weeks away from being sent. Nola Western, Elections B.C.'s executive director of campaign finance, says it's unusual to get a complaint in advance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**Lap-dancing teachers both out of work**

Two Manitoba high school teachers whose enthusiasm at a pep rally morphed into a mock lap dance that became an Internet sensation are now out of jobs. The chairwoman of the Winnipeg School Division said teacher Chrystie Fitchner's resignation was accepted yesterday while the short-term contract for Adeil Ahmed expired and would not be renewed. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Canada

## Liberals aim to save long-gun registry

**Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff says he'll require his caucus to oppose the next vote to scrap the controversial long-gun registry. The move aims to save the registry and avoid a split in the Liberal ranks after some opposition MPs voted for the government legislation last time around. To make it more palatable to his MPs — especially those from rural areas — Ignatieff says he'll propose changes to the registry, including decriminalizing the failure to register long guns.** THE CANADIAN PRESS

# PM slams Homolka pardon eligibility

**Prime Minister Stephen Harper drew mixed reviews yesterday for bemoaning the fact convicted killer Karla Homolka will be able to apply for a pardon later this year.**

The prime minister cited Homolka's looming pardon eligibility as one of many frustrations he has felt in the last few weeks about the weaknesses in Canada's justice system.

Harper said the news serial killer Clifford Olson is receiving government pension benefits in prison was compounded by revelations by The Canadian Press that hockey coach Graham James received a pardon for sexual-abuse convictions.

Homolka, who was convicted of manslaughter and served 12 years in prison in the sex-slaying of two girls, is also eligible to apply for a pardon through a system that grants "99 per cent" of applicants their wishes, Harper said.

"For many years, the vast majority of Canadians have found this deeply offensive. Now, they find it unacceptable," Harper told a victims' rights conference. "Yet, for now, the law remains. And the law will allow Karla Homolka to apply for a pardon this year."

Harper has asked Public Safety Minister Vic Toews to table new legislation in the coming months that would tighten the system.

Homolka served a 12-year sentence for manslaughter after a plea bargain in 1993. While she was never charged in the 1990 Christmas Eve drug-rape death of her sister, Tammy Homolka, her sentence took the incident into account. THE CANADIAN PRESS

*Jean 'lances Congo's biggest boil' in tough talk on systemic rape.*

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## Plattsville **Soldier brought home**

WATERLOO REGION RECORD/PETER LEE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The casket of Pte. William Tyler Todd is carried at his funeral yesterday afternoon at Plattsville Missionary Church in Plattsville, Ont., a suburb of Kitchener. Todd was killed in a roadside bomb blast in Afghanistan over a week ago.

## **News** in brief

**VOLCANO** Concern that a volcanic eruption in Iceland could have an impact on Eastern Canada diminished greatly yesterday with data that suggested no significant ash in the atmosphere east of Newfoundland. The Canadian Meteorological Centre in Montreal also said the Eyjafjallajokull volcano, which erupted April 14, sending a massive ash plume into the sky that disrupted flights worldwide, appeared to be settling down. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Jaffer to speak on lobbying scandal after NDP fail to block testimony

**POLITICS** Rahim Jaffer is to speak publicly for the first time tomorrow about the allegations of improper lobbying that hang like a cloud over him and his young consulting business.

The NDP had tried unsuccessfully yesterday to thwart his appearance at a Commons committee, the party's appetite for the scandal suddenly waning.

Rahim Jaffer

Jaffer's business partner at Green Power Generation, a company that promotes sustainable technologies and renewable energy projects, said they were anxious to address the allegations of unregistered lobbying with the Conservative government.

"We want to get this thing over with," Patrick Glemaud said of the appearance at the government operations committee.

The NDP's Pat Martin had questioned the usefulness of the "circus" that would take place before the RCMP, ethics and lobbying commissioners could conduct their own investigations. But ultimately his bid to stop the appearance did not make it to a vote at the committee late yesterday, as the Liberals filibustered. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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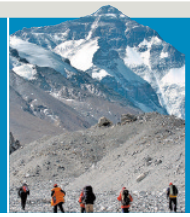
**Quake rocks Australia's gold-mining region**
A 5.0-magnitude earthquake struck Australia's major gold-mining region in the west this morning, collapsing roofs of several buildings and prompting the evacuation of mines, schools and hospitals. There were no immediate reports of injuries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# World



## Body recovery mission on Everest

**A team of 20 Sherpa mountaineers plans to remove bodies of climbers who died in Mount Everest's "death zone," a treacherous stretch that has claimed some 300 lives since 1953, the team leader said yesterday. The team also aims to remove tons of garbage left behind on the slopes under a Nepalese government program to clean up the popular tourist destination.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## News in brief

**SPAIN** Stranded travellers are piling into buses, trains and high-priced taxis in a frantic scramble to accomplish an increasingly tricky mission: Escape from Europe. Spain was becoming a dream destination not for its beaches and monuments but simply by virtue of the fact it's one of the few European countries unaffected by the ash cloud drifting across the continent. Monstrous lines filled the departure terminals at Madrid's Bajaras Airport as people sought a chance to flee.

**TENNESSEE** A gunman took a taxi to a hospital yesterday and opened fire, killing a woman and injuring two others before committing suicide, police said. All the victims were female and current or former employees of Parkwest Medical Center, Knoxville Police said. It did not appear that any of the victims were related to the suspect or that there was any connection between them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Flights resume from Europe

## Airlines begin departing under tight 'visual' guidelines

**After five days in which nature brought the jet age to a halt, European officials agreed yesterday to let air traffic resume on a limited basis, giving hope to millions of travellers around the world stranded by ash from a volcano in Iceland.**

Three KLM passenger planes left Schiphol airport in Amsterdam yesterday during daylight under visual flight rules bound for New York, Dubai and Shanghai. European Union transport ministers reached a deal during a crisis videoconference to divide northern European skies into three areas: A "no-fly" zone immediately over the ash cloud; a caution zone "with some contamination" where planes can fly subject to engine checks for damage; and an open-skies zone.

JON PAL VIHTEMSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**The eruption of the Eyjafjallajokull volcano in Iceland has entered a new phase — producing less smoke but bubbling with lava. Low-energy lightning is sometimes active during eruptions, arcing between particles as they exit the volcanic vent.**

Starting today, "we should see progressively more planes start to fly," said EU Transport Commissioner Siim Kallas.

German airline Lufthansa said it would bring 50 planeloads of passengers home and Britain said it would reopen some of its airspace today. British Airways said it hoped to start flying from London at midnight EDT.

Visual flight rules allow a pilot to fly without reference to instruments, if weather conditions are good enough so the pilot can see landmarks and avoid any other aircraft.

Those flights need to be below 18,000 feet, lower than usual altitude for commercial traffic.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Forces kill Iraqi al-Qaida leaders

**BAGHDAD** U.S. and Iraqi forces killed the two top al-Qaida figures in the country in a nighttime rocket attack near Tikrit, a joint operation the U.S. called a significant blow to the insurgency and a sign Iraqi forces are strengthening. Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki announced the killings of Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri in Baghdad and showed reporters photographs of their bloody corpses.

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**Families of USS Cole victims suing Sudanese government**
Relatives of the 17 sailors killed 10 years ago in the attack on the USS Cole are suing Sudan for $282.5 million in damages for pain and suffering. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## News in brief

**BURMA** The possibility of armed conflict in Myanmar, also known as Burma, is rising because a series of ceasefire agreements between the military government and more than a dozen armed ethnic groups are dissolving as the regime seeks to press those groups into becoming a border militia under government control. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Three freed from rubble

**Relatives kept alive a four-year-old girl and an elderly woman trapped by an earthquake under a collapsed house for almost a week by using bamboo poles to push water and rice through the rubble until rescuers saved them yesterday.**

**1,944** The death toll from last week's earthquake rose again, according to the Xinhua News Agency. More than 12,100 others have been injured.

The rare good news came as the death toll in China's remote Tibetan region jumped to nearly 2,000.

Rescuers also freed a third person yesterday from the rubble of a hillside house that toppled when the magnitude-6.9 temblor struck Yushu county of Qinghai province Wednesday morning, state broadcaster China Central Television reported.

The rescue of Wujian Cuomao, 68, and Cairen Baji, 4, from a crumbled home in a village about 20 kilometres from the hardest-hit town of Jiegu was hailed by state media as a miracle and repeatedly played on television news broadcasts.

Debris had pressed down on the girl's chest, CCTV said, but she suffered no injuries. The report said the woman's life was not in danger.

The woman and child were protected by a wooden bed frame, which they huddled under as the house fell to pieces around them.

Also yesterday, rescuers freed a Tibetan woman named Ritu from her collapsed house on a hillside, CCTV said. Half her body had been trapped by the debris, the report said, but her vital signs were stable. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Bangladesh **Handmade relief**

PAVEL RAHMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amina Begum carries handmade fans in the capital, Dhaka, yesterday. Bangladeshi people stocked up on handmade fans made of palm leaves, candles, lanterns and fuel for generators to deal with an acute power failure in the country.

## Video shows Taliban at abandoned U.S. base

**AFGHANISTAN** Taliban fighters swarmed over a mountaintop base abandoned last week by the U.S. military following some of the toughest fighting of the Afghan war, according to footage aired yesterday by a major satellite television station.

The video by Al-Jazeera television is a morale booster for Taliban fighters, though the U.S. insists the decision to withdraw from the base in the Korengal Valley was sound and the area has no strategic value.

Fighters said they recovered fuel and ammunition.

But a U.S. spokesman said ammunition had been evacuated and the fuel handed over to local residents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**U.S. marks Oklahoma City bombing anniversary**
U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told survivors and victims' relatives gathered yesterday for a sombre ceremony to mark the 15th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing that the city's spirit in the wake of the tragedy served as an example to the nation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Liberal Democrats make huge poll jump

**An unpredictable British national election has suddenly become more uncertain, with an unexpectedly stellar television debate performance from the leader of the Liberal Democrats sending the perennially third-ranked party to first place in some opinion polls.**

Nick Clegg's party has leapfrogged the main opposition Conservatives — who most had expected to oust Prime Minister Gordon Brown's governing Labour after 13 years in office. The Liberal Democrats' success is overturning all previous predictions for Britain's May 6 poll.

Clegg

Clegg's relaxed style and sharp attacks on Britain's two major parties won him, by virtually every assessment, the country's first ever TV debate last week, and prompted an opinion poll surge that's eclipsed his rivals.

The 43-year-old Clegg attacked Brown and Conservative Leader David Cameron as part of an old consensus in British politics that allowed a lawmakers' expense scandal and failed to anticipate the financial meltdown. He also charmed viewers by referring to audience members who asked questions by name, in a style reminiscent of Bill Clinton's.

"The more they attack each other, the more they sound the same," Clegg said as the three leaders debated Thursday, watched by a TV audience of nine million viewers.

An opinion poll by BPIX, published Sunday, put the Liberal Democrats up 12 percentage points to 32 per cent.

Cameron's Conservatives fell seven points to 31 per cent and Brown's Labour sat third with 28 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Book reviewer outed as author's wife

**ONLINE** A reviewer signed as Historian posted some savage reviews on Amazon's web pages but had a weakness for one writer, celebrated author and Russia expert Orlando Figes.

Historian has now been exposed as Figes's loyal wife, Stephanie Palmer, a senior law lecturer at Girton College at Cambridge University.

The revelation has raised eyebrows in Britain's cosy academic world, where public backbiting is frowned upon.

Figes, a professor of history at Birkbeck College, had denied that he had anything to do with the harsh comments on Amazon about books by Rachel Polonsky, Robert Service and Kate Summerscale.

On Friday, however, Figes's lawyer, David Price, confirmed that the reviews were posted by Palmer.

"My client's wife wrote the reviews," said a statement issued by Price. "My client has only just found out about this, this evening. Both he and his wife are taking steps to make the position clear."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## News in brief

**INTERNET** Facebook is revamping users' profiles to emphasize the pages for bands, books and businesses that millions have become fans of on the world's largest online social network. Currently, users can list their activities, interests, favourite music and TV shows as part of their profile. But links to Facebook pages for products, bands and other interests would appear in a separate section.

**COURTS** A former Virginia Tech graduate student who admitted to decapitating a fellow Chinese student has been sentenced to life in prison. Haiyang Zhu was sentenced in Montgomery County Circuit Court to life without parole.

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# Comment & Views

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## Comment

# Hurricane Helena not the big story

All the sound and fury over the Helena Guergis affair, which may turn out to signify nothing, or very little, has served to camouflage matters more serious.

The story to watch this week is not Hurricane Helena. It is a likely historic decision by House of Commons Speaker Peter Milliken on executive power versus parliamentary power.

In many cases, the Harper government has been able to stay out of trouble by shielding information from the public eye. There are indications that it might soon pay the price. Milliken will rule on the prime minister's bid to defy the will of Parliament in blocking the Commons' request for documents on the Afghan detainees affair.

The Conservatives have thus far only released heavily censored documents. They argue that to release them would jeopardize national security. It's a convenient rationale and has been used and likely abused countless times on countless issues.

If Milliken rules in favour of the rights of Parliament, it could lead to a devastating string of embarrassments for the government. Recent testimony from a number of sources suggests strongly that contrary to what the government has been saying, it knew prisoners taken by Canadian soldiers were turned over to Afghan authorities for torture. Chances are good the uncensored documents will prove this. That would mean the government would be caught red-handed in having repeatedly misled Parliament with its statements on the matter. It would mean it could be found to have violated the Geneva Conventions and potentially face charges of war crimes.

A related question of legalities is confronting the Harper team. Evidence is accruing to the effect that political operatives may have instructed civil servants to block the release of documents requested under the Access to Information Act. If such were the case, the actions would be a violation of the law. The last thing the government needs now are civil servants blowing the whistle on political manipulation of the access to information process.

These issues make the shenanigans of Helena Guergis and Rahim Jaffer pale by comparison. The explosive story in Ottawa is not that one. It is secrecy and censorship practised by the government and whether developments in the weeks to come will blow the lid off what it has been doing.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

## Views

# Tune into work or shopping surroundings

For me, a chronic irritant about shopping at my local big box hardware store is the tinny soft rock music that's pumped out of parking lot speakers. It doesn't put me in a mood to buy so much as warn me about the frustration I'm going to face as I stumble around looking vainly for sales help.

But I understand why they do it. I might not like the offering, but thousands of my fellow shoppers will, and that's going to translate into bigger sales. Whether it's in retail space or the workplace, music has more than charms to soothe the savage beast.

Pleasurable music encourages the brain to boost production of dopamine, improving a person's mood. Innumerable studies show music encourages customers to open their wallets. Alternatively, music can keep unwanted customers away. In the workplace, music can elevate mood, stimulate productivity and induce feelings of job satisfaction.

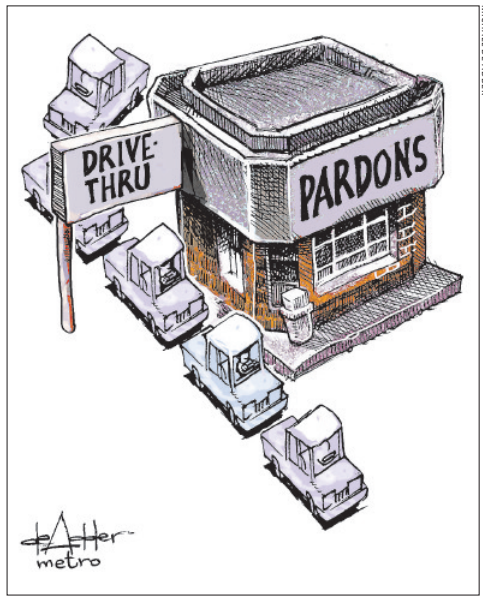
Music has been in public spaces for centuries, but it wasn't until the early 1930s when Wired Radio Inc. — later known as Muzak — started piping tunes to customers that music started to become pervasive. Today, Muzak claims more than 100 million workers in more than 12 countries listen to its customized soundtracks daily. A 2008 Harris Poll found nearly one-third of all U.S. employees listen to personal music devices at work.

Sometimes, music's effect can be precisely measured. At the University of Leicester in the U.K., for instance, researchers discovered that restaurant patrons would spend 10 per cent more if there was classical music playing in the background.

Music isn't always a good thing. In industrial workplaces like factories or mines, it can mask dangers. In highly intense jobs like investment banking, an iPod can send the signal that the wearer isn't committed.

But it really does boost productivity. Take this column. It was written in 14 minutes 12 seconds, exactly the amount of time it took for two run-throughs of Derek and the Dominos' Layla.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.

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**Oil firm picks veteran to take helm**

Phoenix Oilfield Hauling Inc., an oil industry services company based in Alberta, says it has appointed energy services veteran Chris Challis as the company's new president and chief executive. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

# Raising rates questioned

**It's a minority view, but some economists are advising the Bank of Canada to hold off on raising rates — for a long time.**

The reason, says Carl Weinberg of U.S.-based High Frequency Economics, is the Canadian economy is not nearly as strong as recent data suggests and inflation is at acceptable levels.

He says Canada's central bank could easily keep interest rates at record lows until next year and not worry about inflation getting out of hand.

That flies in the face of the prevailing view of economists, who believe Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney will start raising rates in July — or possibly even in June.

Carney is expected to give a strong hint into his thinking this week, starting today with a scheduled interest rate announcement.

No one thinks Carney will move this week on the policy rate, which is at an emergency level of 0.25 per cent, but the governor is expected to issue a new forecast on both growth and inflation that will tip off when he will act.

Carney made a conditional pledge last spring not to raise rates until the end of the second quarter of 2010 unless inflation becomes a worry.

That's going to be a high hurdle for Carney to jump if he does intend to move early, says Michael Gregory of BMO Capital Markets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Inflation within target range

- Statistics Canada reported last month that the core inflation rate, which the Bank of Canada watches closely, was 2.1 per cent in February while overall inflation was 1.6 per cent. Both are within the central bank's target range of one to three per cent.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney is expected to show his hand today on whether he believes the economic recovery is rooted enough to withstand an increase in interest rates.

# Toyota agees to pay record $16.4M fine

**RECALL** Toyota has agreed to a record $16.4-million fine for its slow response to sticking gas pedals — the equivalent of a little more than $2 for every vehicle the company sold around the globe in 2009.

But the fine, the maximum under the law, could be simply a downpayment in the long run: The Japanese auto giant still faces dozens of private lawsuits, which have been combined before a federal judge in Santa Ana, California.

"In the court of public opinion, paying the fine speaks volumes. But at the end of the day, the fines are simply background noise in terms of the civil litigation," Richard Arsenault, a plaintiff's attorney in Alexandria, Louisiana, said Monday.

Rushing to address new safety concerns, Toyota said it would recall all 9,400 of the 2010 Lexus GX 460s that went on sale in late December. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**8** Toyota has recalled more than eight million vehicles worldwide because of acceleration problems in multiple models and braking issues in the Prius hybrid.

## Banking **On the rebound**

RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Citigroup Inc. has provided more evidence that America's big banks may have turned a corner, reporting a first-quarter profit as trading revenue offset losses from failed loans. Citigroup says it earned US$4.4 billion after payment of preferred dividends.

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# Suncor Energy begins operations at Syria facility

**GAS** Suncor Energy Inc. has kicked off commercial operations at its $1.2-billion Ebla natural gas development in Syria, one of many international assets it took on through its takeover of Petro-Canada last year.

Canada's largest energy company began selling natural gas into the domestic market yesterday, after successfully commissioning and testing the project's wells, pipelines and other equipment.

"The team has delivered ahead of schedule, within budget and with a strong safety record," Mark Little, senior vice-president, international and offshore, said in a statement.

Ebla covers more than 1,250 square kilometres in the central part of the North African country, and includes gas producing wells, gas gathering and compression stations, about 80 kilometres of pipeline and a gas treatment plant. It is designed to produce 80 million cubic feet of gas per day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Business in brief

**LOANS** General Motors Co. will fully repay the $6.7-billion US loan portion of its U.S. government aid earlier than its previously promised payback date of June, a person briefed on the plans said yesterday. The company has received a total of $52 billion in U.S. government aid, with the $6.7 billion considered a loan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# TD sees little risk in buying Florida banks

**BANKING** TD Bank is playing it safe by purchasing the risky assets of three insolvent Florida banks under an agreement with regulators that some analysts say carries minimal downside for the Canadian bank, even if all of the loans were to go sour.

"I look at this type of a deal as very low-risk on what could be considered some high-risk type of assets," said Craig Fehr, a financial services analyst with Edward Jones in St. Louis. "I think that's a nice little jump start for TD, to be able to grow that presence along the eastern seaboard over time."

TD Bank announced last Friday it bought the assets and liabilities of Riverside National Bank of Florida, First Federal Bank of North Florida and AmericanFirst Bank from the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

The FDIC has agreed to share 50 per cent of the loan losses up to specific thresholds at each bank. From that point, the FDIC would handle 80 per cent of the loan losses.

Desjardins Securities analyst Michael Goldberg published a note yesterday that was also optimistic about the agreement.

He noted that TD will only be responsible for at most about $575 million US of loan losses in the unlikely event that all of the three banks' loans went to zero value.

"TD has acquired these banks' $3.8 billion US assets at par and is not paying a premium for their $3.1 billion US of deposits," Goldberg wrote.

The bank is getting a major expansion in its U.S. banking operations, adding 69 new retail locations to its roster, bringing the total to 103 in Florida. Between the three banks there are about 900 employees, though TD expects to hire more staff.

TD, which already has a major retail presence in the northeastern United States, says the acquisitions in Florida will help broaden its U.S. presence.

Fred Graziano, head of TD's U.S. retail banking, said the bank is confident that its agreement with the FDIC makes the acquisitions safe bets.

Fehr suggested that other Canadian banks could begin to feel pressure from their investors to follow in TD's footsteps with their own acquisitions south of the border.

"When you see TD make a deal like this, is kind of shifts a little bit of focus over to BMO and RBC," Fehr said. "Investors say 'OK, TD did something like this, why can't you?'" THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

# Hidden costs in buying a home

AlisonOnMoney

Something about birds chirping and buds bursting sends us out shelter shopping. Whether you are a new homebuyer, a move-up buyer or downsizing, it's important to consider the costs of a house purchase that go beyond the selling price.

Downsizers, surprisingly, often make miscalculations when buying a home because many have been in their abode for a long time and, well, things have changed since you bought back in the 1970s.

Here are some standard costs to consider before you make your first offer.

**1 Mortgage payment:** Know the range of possibilities for varying amortizations, payment schedules (monthly, bi-monthly, weekly) and types and terms of mortgages.

**2 Mortgage insurance:** With less than 20 per cent down payment you may need mortgage insurance. This can add a one-time cost of up to 2.75 per cent of your mortgage, usually added to the principal.

**3 Home inspection:** A must for re-sale homes. (Average, $500).

**4 Survey (certificate of location):** If there isn't an up-to-date one available, plan on spending from $750 to $1,500.

**5 Legal costs and disbursements:** Depending on the province, they range from $1,500 to $2,500. Ask your lawyer for a detailed estimate. Optional title insurance, which covers survey issues and undischarged mortgages relating to previous owners, is becoming increasingly common ($250). There may be interest adjustments ($100 to $1,000) to cover any gap between closing date and first mortgage payment.

**6 Property appraisal:** This may be required by your lender. Some lenders include this as part of your banking package. (Otherwise, $150 to $200).

**7 Vendor reimbursements:** If the vendor has paid in advance for things such as taxes and fuel you will have to reimburse the vendor for the period from closing to year end.

**8 Land transfer tax:** Loathed by homebuyers, this may be levied in your area but there could be reductions for first-time or senior buyers.

**ALISON'S MONEY RULE**
Spring is home buying fever time. Don't be surprised by hidden costs. Know in advance the extra expenses you might face.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at griffiths.alison@gmail.com.

# Transferring undeducted RRSPs will have tax consequences

MoneyMatters

**Q This October, my father turns 69 and my mother 65. Is this the last year for his RRSP contribution and can he transfer excess contributions to his TFSA?**
— Gianni

A The year your father turns 71 is the final year he can make a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) contribution to his own fund. However, he may continue to contribute to a spousal RRSP with your mom as the annuitant, and claim a deduction until she turns 71.

Undeducted RRSP contributions in excess of the allowable $2,000 should either be deducted or withdrawn to avoid penalties by Canada Revenue Agency.

Undeducted RRSPs cannot be transferred to a Tax-Free Savings Account without tax consequences. You should consult your financial/tax adviser before any transfers.

**Q My partner and I have a small catering business. It is not a corporation. Is the income earned in the partnership for 2009 taxable for that year or can we defer this income?** — Sadi

A Businesses are generally operated as non-incorporated (sole proprietorship, partnership) or incorporated. A corporation is a separate entity from the individual and may have varying year-ends. Individuals do not have to report income from the corporation unless they receive funds from the corporation, such as salary, bonus or dividends. On the other hand, a non-incorporated entity must report its income on a calendar year basis — January to December. Therefore, you and your partner must report for 2009.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcga@yahoo.ca and 416-485-5225.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Afghanistan | 24.9 ¢ | Jamaica | 8.9 ¢ | Oman | 14.9 ¢ | Italy | 2.9 |
| Bangladesh | 3.9 ¢ | Jordan | 3.9 ¢ | Fiji | 24.9 ¢ | Russia | 2.9 |
| Barbados | 9.9¢ | Kenya | 6.9 ¢ | Ghana | 9.9 ¢ | Saudi Arabia | 3.9 |
| Chile | 2.9 ¢ | Kuwait | 6.9 ¢ | Greece | 2.9¢ | South Korea | 2.9 |
| China | 2.9 ¢ | Lebanon | 9.9 ¢ | Guatemala | 10.9¢ | Sri Lanka | 11.9 |
| Ecuador | 12.9¢ | Libya | 24.9 ¢ | Guyana | 27.9¢ | Trinidad | 4.9 |
| El Salvador | 9.9 ¢ | Nepal | 7.9 ¢ | Honduras | 15.9 ¢ | U.A.E. | 16.9 |
| | | Israel | 2.9 ¢ | Iraq | 4.9 ¢ | | |

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**Gagne retiring from baseball**

Unable to catch on with an MLB club, Quebec pitcher and former NL Cy Young winner Eric Gagne is calling it a career at age 34. Gagne told Ruefrontenac.com that he no longer had it in him to fight for a major league job after being cut by the Los Angeles Dodgers during spring training. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Sports

## Hood no good: MLB

**Baseball's fashion police have raided Joe Maddon's hood. The Tampa Bay Rays manager has been told by Major League Baseball that he can no longer wear his favourite hoodie. Maddon, left, likes to put on the pullover during cold days at the ballpark, but MLB said it's not approved for use during games.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

Vancouver's Alex Burrows is checked by Rob Scuderi of the Los Angeles Kings during the first period of last night's Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinal at Staples Center in Los Angeles.

# Canucks fall, trail in series

**(Los Angeles leads 2-1)**

**Canucks 3 Kings 5**

**If the Los Angeles Kings' fearsome power play keeps lighting up Roberto Luongo and the Vancouver Canucks, their long-suffering fans won't have to wait eight years for their next playoff series.**

Michal Handzus scored two power-play goals, Drew Doughty had a goal and three assists, and the Kings chased Luongo during a 5-3 victory yesterday night, taking a 2-1 series lead in their first home post-season game since 2002.

Brad Richardson and Ryan Smyth also scored and Jonathan Quick made 25 saves as the sixth-seeded Kings moved ahead in the best-of-seven series with another standout game from their relentless power play, which has seven goals after connecting three more times in Game 3.

Mikael Samuelsson, Mason Raymond and Daniel Sedin scored for the Canucks, who trimmed a three-goal deficit to 4-3 before the Kings finished strong.

Game 4 is tomorrow night at Staples Center, where the increasingly shaky Luongo doesn't exactly feel at home.

He gave up eight goals in an embarrassing loss to the Kings just 18 days ago, and he stopped just 12 shots before getting pulled late in the second period of Game 3 in front of a raucous crowd watching its first home playoff game since 2002. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## SCOREBOARD

**NBA**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland 112 Chicago 102
Utah 114 Denver 111

**BASEBALL**

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS
Toronto 8 Kansas City 1
L.A. Angels 2 Detroit 0
Seattle 8 Baltimore 2
Tampa Bay 8 Boston 2

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS
Washington 5 Colorado 2
N.Y. Mets 6 Chicago Cubs 1
St. Louis 4 Arizona 2
San Diego 3 San Francisco 2 (10 ings)

**NHL**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 5 Montreal 1
Boston 2 Buffalo 1
Los Angeles 5 VANCOUVER 3

TODAY'S GAMES
Phoenix at Detroit, 3:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Ottawa, 4 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 4:30 p.m.
Chicago at Nashville, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Colorado, 7 p.m.

## Sports in brief

**CONDUCT** NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger has violated the league's personal-conduct policy. The NFL is expected to discipline Roethlisberger, although it says there is no timetable for such a decision.

**NFL** The Philadelphia Eagles have dealt this year's fifth-round pick to Denver, which is sending tight end Tony Scheffler to the Detroit Lions, who will trade linebacker Ernie Sims to Philly. The Eagles announced the three-way deal in a statement yesterday, three days before the NFL draft.

**ARENA** Edmonton Oilers owner Daryl Katz made his bid for a new arena official yesterday with a zoning application for a large swath of land on the edge of downtown.

**SOCCER** Liverpool beat visiting West Ham 3-0 in yesterday's only Premier League match to stay in contention for European qualification. Goals from Yossi Benayoun and David Ngog plus an own-goal from West Ham goalkeeper Robert Green at Anfield lifted Liverpool into sixth place over Aston Villa, which has played one fewer match.

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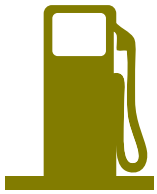

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# Ex-boxing champ Valero kills himself in jail: Police

**VENEZUELA** Former boxing champion Edwin Valero, who had a spectacular career with 27 straight knockouts and flaunted a tattoo of President Hugo Chavez on his chest, hanged himself in his jail cell yesterday after being arrested for stabbing his wife to death, police said.

The former lightweight champion used the sweat pants he was wearing to hang himself from a bar in the cell, said his lawyer, Milda Mora.

Valero, 28, had problems with alcohol and cocaine addiction and struggled with depression. He had previously been suspected of assaulting his wife and was charged last month with harassing her and threatening personnel at a hospital where she was treated for injuries.

EDUARDO VERDUGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edwin Valero is seen during a WBC lightweight title fight in Monterrey, Mexico.

Valero's 24-year-old wife, Jennifer Carolina Viera, was found dead in a hotel room on Sunday, and police said the fighter emerged telling hotel security he had killed her.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Canada needs to stem flow of soccer talent

**It's Called Football**

**Ben Rycroft**

metronews.ca/itscalledfootball

It's been said before, but it bears repeating: Canada needs to do more to ensure other nations aren't scooping up its national team players.

Last Friday, the Canadian Soccer Association held a press conference to outline its plans for the rest of 2010. It announced five more friendlies this year, including a couple of high-profile matchups against Argentina and Honduras. Two of the five games will be played on Canadian soil.

The CSA should be commended for its proactive approach in going out and landing these games, but a larger issue still looms.

Last year saw a low point for the Canadian game, as the "goalkeeper of the future," Asmir Begovic, walked away from the nation that raised him to be capped for Bosnia-Herzegovina, the nation that birthed him.

Canada had ample time to cap Begovic during the last World Cup qualifying campaign, but through mismanagement and FIFA rule changes, he was never permanently tied to the Maple Leaf.

Now Canada is faced with a similar situation in Teal Bunbury.

Bunbury, born in Hamilton to an American mother and former Canadian national team legend Alex Bunbury, was drafted fourth overall in the MLS SuperDraft and is widely regarded as a striker who could play a major part in Canada's national team program for years to come.

But word has it that the U.S. men's national team is suddenly short on depth and looking to shore up its future — that includes taking a hard look at young Bunbury, who scored his first MLS goal last week.

I spoke to Bunbury just hours after the CSA presser. He dismissed any notion U.S. team officials had approached him, but admitted he hadn't ruled out playing for the U.S.

To see an interview with national team coach Stephen Hart visit: metronews.ca

He also said that Canadian national team head coach Stephen Hart had spoken to him earlier in the year.

"Right now I'm trying to work on my life as a professional in Kansas City and when opportunities arise with the national teams, I'll take care of them," Bunbury said.

Hart is taking the right steps to ensure this young talent doesn't go astray by keeping in contact with him and letting him know where he stands in the Canadian team's plans.

But Hart should take it a step further and eliminate any doubt — invite Bunbury to play in this year's friendlies, and then cap-tie him at next year's CONCACAF Gold Cup.

Hart's predecessor, Dale Mitchell, missed that opportunity with Begovic when he kept him on the bench throughout World Cup qualifying.

Canada can't afford to make the same mistake with Bunbury.

Watch Ben Rycroft on the It's Called Football show every Sunday at metronews.ca; ben.rycroft@metronews.ca.

# Bergeron scores winner for Boston

**(Boston leads 2-1)**

**Bruins 2 Sabres 1**

**NHL** Patrice Bergeron scored the go-ahead goal with just more than six minutes left to give the Boston Bruins a 2-1 win last night and a 2-1 lead over the Buffalo Sabres in their Eastern Conference playoff series.

Mark Recchi bumped Tim Kennedy off the puck in the right corner behind the Buffalo net and fed it to Bergeron, whose quick shot from the right circle beat Ryan Miller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Duke star returning**

Duke's Kyle Singler, the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four, announced last night that he will return to school for his senior season. Singler said in a statement that he was looking forward to one more year in college. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Caps take series lead

**(Washington leads 2-1)**

**Canadiens 1 Capitals 5**

VS

**The Washington Capitals chased Jaroslav Halak with a four-goal second period and rocked the Montreal Canadiens with a 5-1 victory last night to take the lead in their NHL Eastern Conference quarter-final.**

The Capitals hold a 2-1 edge in the best-of-seven series heading into Game 4 tomorrow night at the Bell Centre.

The first goal was the turning point as Boyd Gordon scored short handed 1:06 into the second period. The goal came after Canadiens defenceman Jaroslav Spacek accidentally backed into Halak and knocked him down while trying to stop a two-on-one break.

Brooks Laich and Eric Fehr then scored as the Caps got three in a six-shot span on Halak, who was pulled in favour of Carey Price at 8:33 of the second.

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Washington Capital Alex Ovechkin celebrates with teammate Mike Knuble after scoring the fourth goal against the Montreal Canadiens last night. Washington won 5-1.

Halak faced only 13 shots.

Alex Ovechkin made it 4-0 and Matt Bradley added a late goal against Price, who faced 23 shots.

Tomas Plekanec scored on a power play in the third period for Montreal, which fired 27 at Semyon Varlamov.

The Canadiens outplayed Washington in the first period and had the sellout crowd of 21,273 singing "Ole Ole."

But the Capitals showed why they had the NHL's best regular-season record in the second, silencing the Habs with a display of their league-best attack at its deadliest.

The win followed Washington's 6-5 comeback win in overtime in Game 2, after which Ovechkin said Halak appeared to be rattled.

While the Slovak goaltender came back with a strong opening period yesterday, he appeared to lose focus after allowing the first goal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**Hawai'i** Air + 15-Day Cruise from $1849 + taxes & fees $137
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INCLUDES central accom and breakfast.

**Paris** Starter, Air + 2 Nights from $629 + taxes & fees $427
INCLUDES first 2 nights central accom and breakfast.

**London** Air + 6 Nights from $739 + taxes & fees $473
INCLUDES central accom and breakfast.

**Greece** Sailing 8-Day Tour was ~~$1299~~ now $1169 taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Cyclades Islands and Mykonos. Departs Athens.

**Europe** Unplugged 22-Day Tour was ~~$1650~~ now $1400 + local payment $440
HIGHLIGHTS France, Switzerland, Monaco, Italy, Vatican City, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, and Netherlands. Roundtrip London.

**Ireland** Hike & Bike 8-Day Tour was ~~$1839~~ now $1655 taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Dingle, Annascaul, Blasket Islands, Brandon Creek, Maharees Peninsula and Cloghane. Departs Tralee.

**Vacations**

**Victoria** Mother's Day Fairmont, 2 Nights + Activity from $219‡ taxes & fees included
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**Las Vegas** Air + 3 Nights 4-Star from $269 + taxes & fees $101
INCLUDES accom on the Strip.

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# Health & Beauty

EDITOR: EMMA.YARDLEY@METRONEWS.CA

# Nail news for a new season

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

**From trendy shades to no-soak manis to long-lasting pro finishes that require little or no drying time, nail adornment has become the new lipstick.**

**HUE, ONLY BETTER**

When nail colour went to the dark side after forever of no-notice neutrals, nails gained new beauty footing and is showing no sign of backing down.

"Polish is that affordable luxury moms can pick up for a few bucks when they're shopping for their kids," says Ann Tall, vice-president of retail sales for drugstore brand Nicole by OPI.

"And a great colour gets compliments!"

A Spring hit is Make Mine Mint ($10.49), an unabashed bright green shimmer.

At the salon, taupey-grey is still strong with OPI's You Don't Know Jacques ($10.95) in the lead, says Leeanne Colley, owner of Tips Nail Bar & Spa in Toronto.

China Glaze Nail Lacquer in Sneaker Head, $6.60 at select salons

Also hot: Bright coral, such as China Glaze's Sneaker Head ($6.60), clear exuberant red, like OPI Red My Fortune Cookie, and orange à la Prada's Spring runway lip.

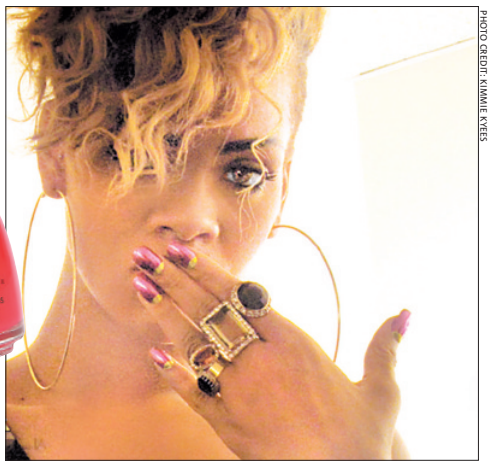

PHOTO CREDIT: KIMMIE KYEES

Trendsetter Rihanna in Pink with Golden Moons Minx, by celeb manicurist Kimmie Kyees for the Rude Boy Video.

**DRY RUN**

A "dry" manicure isn't new — Colley's been doing them for about 15 years — but it's relatively uncommon. The concept is simple: a regular mani, but no finger soaking before polish.

"Soaking makes the nails expand," explains Colley.

By the time they revert to pre-waterlogged form, the polish is already on, dry, and, undermined by nail shrinkage, chip prone.

"A dry manicure, depending on the client, should give at least an additional two or three days."

Minx is a different kind of dry. Adhesive film rather than polish, Minx requires a pro for precise application and a heat lamp to seal it to the nail in a zero drying-time finish.

**YOU GELLIN'?**

About a year ago gel nails got an update with OPI Axxium Soak-Off Gel Lacquer, a thinner, flexible alternative to standard gel and acrylic. Designed for natural nails, it's available clear and in an edited range of OPI shades.

Pre-gel nails need a bit of a rough surface-buff to improve adhesion, but the key, says skilled esthetician Rita Remark, is a light touch. Each coat — base, two of colour and one top — requires a few minutes under a UV lamp to cure the gel. After the last step, nails are completely dry with a no-chip durable finish that can last as long as three manicures.

## Hot little pinkies

OPI Nail Lacquer in A Good Man-darin is Hard to Find, $10.49 at salons

PHOTO FROM VOGUE.COM

Essie nail polish in Chinchilly, $10.50 at salons

Clarins Glossy Nail Colour in Red, $19 at department stores

L'Oréal Paris Pro Manicure in Mango, $5.95 at drugstores

Sally Hansen Complete Salon Manicure in Commander in Chic, $7.95 at drugstores

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# Oil aboard, everyone

## The lowdown on botanical and essential oils

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

Not all oils are created equally. Educate yourself on what's good for what before using them.

**Part of our growing determination to take a more natural approach to beauty is a renewed interest in botanical (plant-based) oils.**

"They're excellent moisturizers, nourishing for skin and hair," says Alana Decourt, aesthetician at Haven Spa in Sidney, B.C.

"Oils are the main ingredients in many leading skincare products, and have been used in body care for centuries."

Oils such as argan, olive, coconut, rosehip and sea buckthorn are rich in fatty acids (lipids) as well as other vitamins, proteins and minerals, which the skin needs to stay supple and healthy.

Essential oils, so named because they're considered the "essence" of the fragrant plant from which they're distilled, can also contribute to well-being via their aromatic properties. Lavender and peppermint are examples.

**"Essential oils are ideal for diffusers, and can also be added to the bath. But before embarking on an intensive oil-up regimen, consult a trained aromatherapist."**

Decourt, whose intuitive touch has blissed-out the likes of Halle Berry and Jessica Biel, recommends using moisturizing oils after a bath and exfoliation.

Essential oils are ideal for diffusers, and can also be added to the bath. But before embarking on an intensive oil-up regimen, consult a trained aromatherapist, she cautions. Some oils are more potent than you might think.

"Risks can be as minor as triggering a breakout, or as serious as aggravating existing health conditions," explains Rose Husen, a registered massage therapist at Concepts Salon & Spa in Toronto.

In addition to researching how certain oils can affect certain conditions, such as hypoglycemia, high blood pressure or pregnancy, be aware that most oils should not be used undiluted.

"Direct contact with the skin can cause irritation and burn," she says.

"You need a carrier."

Unless you're sourcing oils from specialty stores, you'll find most oil-based beauty products are blended with skin-friendly carrier oils, such as sweet almond, grapeseed, avocado, olive, sesame, sunflower and jojoba. Cocoa butter and shea butter also serve as excellent carrier agents.

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PHOTO CREDIT

Josie Maran Argan Oil, $58 at Sephora

Burt's Bees Vitamin E Body & Bath Oil, $9.99 at drugstores

JR Watkins Mango Body Oil, $7.99 at drugstores, jrwatkins.com

Dr. Hauschka Birch Arnica Body Oil for sore muscles, $22.95 at Sephora

Lancôme Nutrix Royal Body Dry Body Oil, $55 at department stores

Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Moisturizing Body Oil, $7.99 at drugstores

Yves Rocher Night Time Body Oil, $22, yves-rocher.ca

Weleda Sea Buckthorn Oil, $22.99 at well.ca

## An argan aside

**Detangling the facts on one of the most popular oils around**

Live Clean Exotic Nectar Argan Oil Treatment (left) $11.99.

• One of the hottest oils right now is argan. High in Vitamin E and moisturizing lipids, it can be used in its pure form on skin and hair.

• Moroccanoil, however, a popular hair treatment, is sometimes confused with argan oil. Although it contains some argan, which does come from Morocco, the bulk of the serum's formula is actually silicone, which is key to detangling and glossing dry, unruly and brittle hair. Live Clean Exotic Nectar Argan Oil hair treatment is a silicone-free blend of botanical ingredients that includes argan, grape seed and olive oils.

• Like Moroccanoil, despite its texture, it's a serum, not an oil. Unlike silicone products, which deliver immediate payoff, this one needs time to impart its benefits.

JANINE FALCON/FOR METRO CANADA

Moroccanoil Oil Treatment (right) $39, both at drugstores

# Treating cancer medically and holistically

Zap Zits

**The Pimple Healer** (Mario Badescu) dries out pimples overnight and helps prevent breakouts.

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CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

**Have you ever received a prescription for meditation? That's right: Meditation, not medication.**

A health centre in Vancouver especially for cancer patients promotes the idea of getting well by pursuing meditation, mindfulness, relaxation, eating well, fitness and even laughter in addition to regular cancer treatments. And studies show this program really works.

"Engaging in healthy living is treatment," says Dr. Teresa Clarke, one of four medical doctors at InspireHealth. "Our 'prescription' could take a page and a half," she says.

InspireHealth integrates the concepts of health and healing into cancer treatment and recovery.

The idea is to empower patients to play an active role in their health.

"People who do follow an integrated approach in addition to surgery, chemotherapy and radiation, have a better quality of life and health outcomes," says Clarke, who is director of outreach services at the centre. "It's important to look after the rest of the person."

Studies show an integrated approach can reduce risk of recurrence, improve survival and increase quality of life.

Founded in 1997 by two medical doctors, InspireHealth has now served more than 5,000 cancer patients. The first appointment with a doctor is 90 minutes, and patients discuss all aspects of their lives — how are they doing in terms of nutrition, exercise, mind-body practice, relationships, laughter, joy, spirit and passion.

Patients then enrol in a $440, two-day LIFE program to learn how to integrate many of these healing practices into their life.

Vitamin supplementation is an important part of InspireHealth's treatment programs. For instance, there is solid evidence that getting sufficient amounts of vitamin D can decrease risk of certain diseases such as multiple sclerosis, cancer and cardiovascular disease, says Clarke. InspireHealth recommends cancer patients take 2,000 I.U. per day of vitamin D.

The services of the four doctors who work at InspireHealth are covered by the B.C. Ministry of Health, so the program is quite unique in Canada. Patients come from as far away as Newfoundland and P.E.I.

"Interest is taking off across the country," says Clarke.

ISTOCK PHOTO

Nurturing the body, mind and spirit as a whole can help facilitate recovery and diminish the risk of recurrence of cancer in patients.

A HEALTHY OUTSIDE STARTS
WITH A HEALTHY INSIDE!

NUTRACLEANSE

NutraCleanse is an all-natural product designed to supplement the serious lack of fibre in the average diet. It offers a range of health benefits and may even help prevent colon cancer.

Nutracleanse is sold in 1 kg bags at health food stores, produce/deli markets, and bodybuilding supplement stores.
A daily serving costs about 75-85 cents. Please check our website and click RETAILERS for a store near you.

BENEFITS OF DAILY USE

- Optimum regularity
- Cleansing and detoxification of colon
- Improved digestion and absorption of nutrients by the body
- Prevention of hemorrhoids
- Lower cholesterol and blood pressure
- Assists in rebuilding of skin cells and cartilage
- Increased energy and vitality
- Maintenance of healthy body weight

SUGGESTED AMOUNT = *1/3 Cup
[daily]
This all-natural product makes up for the lack of fibre in your diet and may help prevent colon Cancer

NUTRACLEANSE IS A WEIGHT-LOSS AID TOO!

1. A half hour before each meal, drink a glass of water (1/3 litre).
2. Morning and evening, 15 minutes before meal, mix 2 heaped tablespoons of Nutracleanse into 2/3 cup milk or juice and drink.
3. Eat less at meals, and walk or take other exercise daily.

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...for life!

NutraCleanse is an all-natural product designed to address the serious problem of lack of fibre in the North American diet.

NutraCleanse is based on a 150 year-old Finnish recipe and is designed to promote optimum regularity and colon health. Our product generally relieves constipation within 24 hours and the problem does not recur with continued use. The all-natural ingredients of NutraCleanse offer numerous additional health benefits including lower cholesterol and blood pressure, rebuilding of skin cells and cartilage, loss of excess body weight, and increased energy and vitality.

Optimally, it is healthiest to have two to three bowel movements daily. Failure to eliminate waste from the body on a daily basis causes a host of problems. It slows down the rate at which wastes move through the colon, leading to toxins being absorbed into the body. This "auto-intoxication" can, over a period of time, cause auto-immune disorders as well as problems such as obesity, gas, bloating, diverticulosis, headaches, depression, even colon cancer.

For optimum colon health, a lifelong daily intake of **25-30 grams** (about an ounce) of fibre is required. The average diet provides under half of this required amount. One serving of NutraCleanse a day provides approximately **60 percent** of this daily recommended intake making it an excellent dietary fibre cleansing supplement.

A Tasty Solution!

NUTRACLEANSE is a delicious, all-natural blend of ground organic flax seed, psyllium and three cleansing herbs designed to promote optimum regularity and colon health. It is easy to use too... just add 1/3 cup (30 grams) to almost any hot cereal or make a NutraCleanse Smoothie. (see recipes) NutraCleanse is also high in protein and Omega 3 fatty acids which are essential for optimum health. **Flax is the highest in Omega-3 of any food.** NutraCleanse therefore provides the body with high-quality nutrients as well as cleansing fibre and lubrication to the colon.

RECIPE #1
On the run?

Just add 1/3 cup or three heaped tablespoons of NutraCleanse to 2/3 cup milk or juice and stir. Enjoy! (Mixture will naturally thicken after 1 minute.)

**For these and other tasty NutraCleanse recipes visit our website at www.nutracleanse.biz**

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION
30 g serving = 1/3 cup

| | |
|---|---|
| Calories | 90 |
| Dietary Fibre | 18 g |
| Fat (Contains the essential fatty acids OMEGA 3+6) | 8 g |
| Protein | 4 g |

INGREDIENTS
NutraCleanse contains the following all-natural organic ingredients:
Ground Flax Seed
Ground Psyllium Husks
Dandelion Root Powder
Burdock Root Powder
Fenugreek Seed Powder

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The Optimum Solution.

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NUTRACLEANSE PRODUCTS INC.
PO Box 3561, Mission, BC, Canada V2V 4L1

**Jack Daniel's quick cocktails**
Jack Daniel's introduces new ready-to-drink cocktails this month. They will be available in four-packs of 355ml cans ($10.95 each) and will be offered in three varieties: Jack & Cola, Jack & Lemonade and Jack & Iced Tea. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Food

## Add fruit to your dinner plate

**If you found it hard to get the five daily servings of produce you've been told for years you need, you'll probably find it even harder to get the seven to 10 servings recommended by Canada's Food Guide. But adding a fruit chutney or compote to your dinner plate — rather than just over a dessert — can help nudge you along. Chutneys and compotes are both good choices, especially between seasons when fruits aren't necessarily at their best.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

# A fresh blend of seafood

### Mediterranean Seafood Stew

SERVES 6

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1 1/2 tsp minced garlic, divided
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 250 g plum tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 1 tsp grated lemon peel
- 1/4 tsp crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 cup clam juice
- 1/3 cup white wine
- 1 Tbsp tomato paste
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 500 g red snapper fillets, cubed
- 500 g uncooked large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 250 g sea scallops
- 1/3 cup minced fresh parsley
- 1/3 cup light mayonnaise

**METHOD:**

1. In Dutch oven, sauté onion and 1/2 tsp garlic in oil until tender. Add tomatoes, lemon peel and pepper flakes; cook and stir 2 minutes.

2. Add clam juice and wine, tomato paste and salt. Bring to boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 10 minutes or until heated through.

Corn Salsa Tostadas.

Pineapple Buttermilk Sorbet.

Mediterranean Seafood Stew.

3. Add fish, shrimp, scallops and parsley. Cover and cook 8-10 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork, shrimp turn pink and scallops are opaque. Combine mayonnaise and remaining garlic; dollop onto each serving.

### Corn Salsa Tostadas

YIELDS THREE DOZEN

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 3 flour tortillas
- 3/4 cup light sour cream
- 3 tsp minced cilantro, divided
- 2 scallions, finely chopped
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 3/4 cup fresh or frozen corn, thawed
- 1 plum tomato, diced
- 1 Tbsp chopped jalapeno pepper
- 2 Tbsp orange juice
- 1 tsp canola oil
- 1/2 tsp salt

**METHOD**

1. Using 2-in. round cookie cutter, cut 12 circles from each tortilla. Coat both sides of circles with nonstick cooking spray. Place in single layer on baking sheet. Bake at 400°F (200°C) 4-5 minutes or until crisp. Cool.

2. In small bowl, combine sour cream, 1 tsp cilantro, onions and garlic powder; cover and refrigerate. In another bowl, combine corn, tomato, jalapeno, orange juice, oil, salt and remaining cilantro; cover and refrigerate.

3. Just before serving, spread 1 tsp sour cream mixture over each tostada. Using slotted spoon, top each with teaspoonful of corn salsa.

### Pineapple Buttermilk Sorbet

SERVES 10

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 2 cups 1% buttermilk
- 540-ml can unsweetened crushed pineapple, undrained
- 3/4 cup sugar

**METHOD**

1. In bowl, combine all ingredients; stir until sugar is dissolved. Pour into 9-in. square dish. Cover and freeze 1 to 1 1/2 hours or until mixture begins to harden.

2. Stir; freeze 3-4 hours longer or until firm, stirring occasionally. Remove from freezer 20-25 minutes before serving.

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For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

## LiquidAssets

**Peter Rockwell**

metronews.ca/liquidassets

### Grill-friendly

Though my barbecue sits out on my back deck all year long it really only sees action in the spring and summer. Not so on my neighbour's porch. The blizzard of the century could be hitting town and he'd still be out there grilling breakfast, lunch and dinner.

I take my barbecuing cue (pun intended) from the yearly time changes. But even though she's been on active duty for a few weeks, I still haven't done much more than flip a few burgers.

Wine wise there's nothing wrong with that. Simple grilled meats work well with any number of liquid partners and hamburgers (even loaded with eclectically flavoured condiments) call for easy-to-drink, straightforward wines with a slant towards the red side.

In the decade of the 00s the go-to burger wine was the Yellow Tail Shiraz ($11.95 - $12.99) from Australia's Casella Wines. The current 2008 is in line with previous vintages; offering bright, jammy berry fruit flavours and a subtle smokiness.

This decade Argentina's **Zuccardi Fuzion Shiraz Malbec** ($7.45 - $9.99) is hot on [yellow tail]'s tail with its bargain basement price and dark and spicy profile. The just released 2009 vintage is as laid-back and grill-friendly as the 2008.

*Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.*

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

**Skarsgaard restrained by police, report says**

True Blood star Alexander Skarsgaard was allegedly restrained by police Saturday at the Coachella Music Festival. Pacific Coast News reports the actor was photographed being held back by a police officer, fists clenched, after he became angered by a paparazzo. USMAGAZINE.COM

# Entertainment

**Family ties**

Gwyneth Paltrow will no longer be playing Nicole Kidman's wife in The Danish Girl after deciding she would rather spend more time with her family, the actress tells Harper's Bazaar. POPEATER.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

# Plants and Animals amp it up

## Montreal act shakes jam label on new disc

TheAudioFiles

Bryan Borzykowski
metronews.ca/music

Attention Plants and Animals fans: The band would like to declare that the genre they now fit into is BBQ rock.

It's anyone's guess what that is, but one thing's for sure, it's as meaningless as that other tag they've lived with over the last couple of years — jam band.

I've never quite been able to figure out why they were slapped with the jam rock title, and neither have they.

"We didn't understand how that happened," says guitarist and vocalist Warren Spicer. "We don't really jam out that much."

It probably started after someone saw the Montreal-based band's live show, where they often jam out on Guru, a nearly seven minute track off the group's Polaris-nominated debut Parc Avenue. The title hasn't hurt the group, says Spicer, if anything it introduced them to an audience they otherwise wouldn't have reached. Those fans may be bit disappointed then to find the new record, La La Land, is a heavier affair. They employ plenty of electric guitar and move from alt-rock on American Idol (which includes a hilarious sax solo) to light soulful sounds on Kon Tiki.

Besides more distortion, the new record doesn't shift styles in a major way, though Spicer does admit spending two years on the road with his bandmates — drummer Matthew Woodley and bassist/keyboardist Nicolas Basque — did have an affect on their sound.

"When we did the first record we were all working day jobs and trying to figure out how to record," he says.

"When we toured we played the songs a lot more electric." Spicer says. "I got geeked out and started getting into pedal."

Plants and Animals' La La Land is out today.

There's no doubt that this album is better. They've ditched their Radiohead-like atmospherics, African drums and most of the airy sounds, but kept the lush harmonies and upbeat rock that is best illustrated on Parc Avenue's Bye Bye Bye.

It's not all great, however. Opener Tom Cruz is a sluggish and weighed down in a dense layer of guitars, keys and brooding vocals. But the single The Mama Papa is an excellent and uplifting radio-friendly rock track that may very well push these guys into the mainstream.

In any case, Plants and Animals are moving in the right direction. If they need to do anything, it's learn how to answer questions about weird titles. But this time it's not a genre, but the song Tom Cruz.

"We could have changed it to avoid being asked that," says Spicer with a laugh. "It doesn't mean anything. We were just so psyched to be in the studio that we were drinking rum and Cokes and jumping around like Tom Cruise."

**In Concert**

- Plants and Animals play the Commodore Ballroom May 5th.

Bryan Borzykowski is a business and entertainment writer. Follow Metro Music on Twitter @TheMetroMusic

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**Sharon's implants in Ozzy's hands**

Sharon Osbourne says she's having her breast implants removed this summer and will give them to her husband, rocker Ozzy Osbourne, as a paperweight. The 57-year-old reality TV star is currently competing on NBC's The Celebrity Apprentice. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## DVD picks

### Avatar

**Director: James Cameron**

**WOULDN'T YOU THINK** that the DVD release of Avatar, The Movie That Changed The Face Of Cinema, would be an occasion to bang the drums, blow the trumpets and give critics an advance look at the product?

Not according to director James Cameron and producer Jon Landau, who have opted to go the no-peeking route in advance of Thursday's home video rollout of their multi-billion-dollar baby. They don't want to give any more of a head start to the pirates but they insist it will be worth the wait.

It might be, if you dampen expectations considerably. The regular DVD and Blu-ray packages will both be missing the 3-D experience that made the Avatar the most successful movie in history during its theatrical run, which continues. You'll also have to use a computer rather than a DVD player, if you want to make use of the very few special features connected with the disc.

Cameron's created an alien world called Pandora that seems completely real, although it's lit like a fluorescent painting and populated by seminaked blue aliens called Na'vi. Their numbers come to include Earthling Jake Sully (Australia's Sam Worthington), a paralyzed U.S. Marine, whose human form remains in suspended animation while his life force assumes the form of a Na'vi warrior.

This saga of a so-called civilized man joining a not-so-primitive tribe is hardly original, and early suggestions that Avatar would play like an interplanetary Dances With Wolves have been largely borne out.

There are no deleted or extended scenes or director's commentaries.

**Peter Howell/for Metro Canada**

# Where wild things are

## Bindi Irwin gets to save orca in new Free Willy

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

**At only 11 years old Bindi Irwin has a career that would make most adults jealous.**

Daughter of the later Steve (The Crocodile Hunter) Irwin, she has hosted several television shows, recorded an album, worked at a variety of charity events, and now has her own movie.

The pint-sized media personality stars in Free Willy: Escape From Pirate's Cove (out on DVD today) and recently visited the Toronto Zoo to promote the movie.

**Free Willy: Escape From Pirate's Cove is out on DVD**

"I was happy to do it because I love all of the other Free Willy movies," Irwin told Metro. "But I was also really excited about the movie because it's about saving wildlife, which I hope will inspire people, especially other children."

Much like her parents before her, Bindi Irwin is passionate about wildlife conservation and his quite pleased to be in a movie that will spread her message.

"In the movie I'm a little girl trying to save this orca that has washed into a lagoon and in real life I'm trying save the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve from being strip mined," revealed Irwin. "So it was wonderful doing this movie because I could relate to the character."

Bindi's love for animals is insatiable and the young actress enjoyed her trip to the Toronto Zoo, even if she didn't quite appreciate it in a conventional way.

"My mom and dad had been there before and they've bragged about it, so I'm so glad that I finally got to go," said Irwin.

"I was amazed by the beautiful polar bears and everything, but we were always stopping to look at the chipmunks and the squirrels because we don't have them in Australia. So it was funny because here we are at this amazing zoo looking at the chipmunks."

Bindi Irwin, right, stars in Free Willy: Escape From Pirate's Cove.

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| | 520 | 505 | 42 DIS | Deadliest Catch "Slow Burn" | | Daily Planet (CC) | | Destroyed | Destroyed | Deadliest Catch "Slow Burn" | | How It's Made |
| | 522 | 506 | 44 HIS | Aftermath (CC) | | Cities of the Underworld | | Pawn Stars | Pawn Stars | Nostradamus Effect (CC) | | Weather |
| | 627 | 528 | 45 SPC | Fringe "White Tulip" (N) (PA) | | InnerSpace | Stargate SG-1 | "Enemy Mine" | | Star Trek: Next Gener. | Star Trek: Voyager (CC) | |
| | 294 | 650 | 57 TBS | The Office | The Office | Lopez Tonight | | Name Is Earl | Name Is Earl | Sex and-City | Sex and-City | Lopez Tonight |
| | 619 | 525 | 48 TROP | The Celebrity Apprentice Reinventing country singers' images. | | | | Dog Whisperer (CC) | | End of Leash | Last 10 | Tube Tales |
| | 603 | 561 | 69 FN | Chefs vs. City "Chicago" | | Restaurant Makeover (CC) | | Diner, Drive-In | Unwrapped | Dinner: Impossible (CC) | | Chefs vs. City |
| | - | - | 58 AMC | (5:00) Top Gun | | Space Cowboys ★★★ (2000, Adventure) Clint Eastwood, Tommy Lee Jones. (CC) | | | | | The Devil's Brigade ★★ (CC) | |
| | 626 | 547 | 57 COM | Air Farce | 22 Minutes | Corner Gas | Name Is Earl | The Simpsons | South Park | Fit.-Conchords | Awesome | Daily Show |
| | 320 | 621 | 30 CEN | (5:55) Blindness ★★ (2008) | | Gamer ★ (2009, Action) Gerard Butler. | | | (:35) Flash of Genius ★★ (2008, Drama) Greg Kinnear. (CC) | | | |
| | 581 | 566 | 101 MTV | 16 and Pregnant "Kailyn" | | 16 and Pregnant Host Dr. Drew Pinsky. (N) | | | My Life as Liz | 16 and Pregnant "Kailyn" | | 16-Pregnant |
| | 261 | 394 | 102 V | Unscripted (N) | CrazyLove | Poltergeist: The Legacy | | French Kiss ★★ (1995, Romance-Comedy) Meg Ryan, Kevin Kline. (CC) | | | | |
| | - | - | 103 MUL | My Queen | Immortal | Il Caffe | | In Germany | Euromaxx | Schauplatz | Euro. Journal | Patrol World |

## critics'corner

**Deadliest Catch**

Fans of Phil Harris, the captain of the F/V Cornelia Marie who died in February, can have the bittersweet experience of watching Harris still very much in his element as season six premieres. "Slow Burn" finds tensions running high as the 2009 king crab season begins — and someone ultimately crosses a line when the captains gather for their annual meeting. 7 PM on DIS

**Parenthood**

Amber's (Mae Whitman) ex-boyfriend, Damien (guest star Eddy Rioseco), arrives from Fresno, putting the family on high alert. Zeek (Craig T. Nelson) takes Adam (Peter Krause) on a road trip for father-son bonding and a little investment advice. Julia and Joel (Erika Christensen, Sam Jaeger) fear that Sydney (Savannah Paige Ray) may have Asperger's. Dax Shepard and Bonnie Bedelia also star in the new episode "Rubber Band Ball." 10 PM on NBC, CITY

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**New Borat baby in production: Report**
Newlyweds Isla Fisher and Sacha Baron Cohen appear to be expecting a second child, as Fisher stepped out recently in L.A. with a very noticeable baby bump, according to Popsugar. METRO NEWS SERVICES

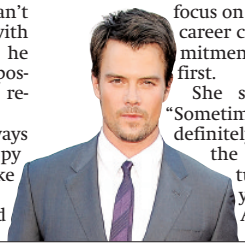
# Celebrity Buzz

## Duhamel wants seven kids

**HAPPY, SLEEPY, DOPEY, STRIPPER, PUBLIC APOLOGY, CAREER REHABILITATION AND DOC** Josh Duhamel wants seven children. The actor can't wait to start a family with wife Fergie because he wants as many kids as possible, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

He said: "I have always loved kids. I am happy with one, but I will take seven."

While the 35-year-old Black Eyed Peas singer also wants children, she has told her husband he must wait because she needs to focus on her career commitments first.



She said: "Sometime definitely in the future, yes. After the tour, because I can't be jumping around with those other boys if I am."

Duhamel, 37, has also revealed the pair have discussed adopting a disadvantaged youngster.

He told America's OK! magazine: "I would love to adopt, especially the more you learn about the kids that are out there that need parents. I am a supporter of adoption."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Garner rings in birthday with famous friends

**NO MATT DAMON? LAME PARTY** Jennifer Garner didn't really need candles as she celebrated her 38th birthday on Saturday — given that there was enough star wattage at her party to light up all of Pacific Palisades, people.com reports.

To mark the occasion at Garner and husband Ben Affleck's home, Reese Witherspoon brought her steady companion since February, Hollywood agent Jim Toth, and her children, Ava and Deacon.

Also singing Happy Birthday to Garner: Molly Sims, Jason Bateman with wife Amanda Anka, Tobey Maguire with Jen Meyer, Don Cheadle, Jimmy Kimmel, Jon Favreau and Laurence Fishburne.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Vet claims to be Oprah's real dad

**ITS' MAURY TIME** An 84-year-old veteran is desperate for Oprah Winfrey to believe that he is the talk-show host's biological father, according to the New York Post. "I'm her real father. I haven't seen her since she was a kid. She was a little bitty thing," Norh Robinson claims, adding that he's reached out to Winfrey before and offered to take a paternity test. "I never did get no answer," he says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

## ABC extends olive branch to Nicollette

**HELL HATH NO FURY LIKE A HOUSEWIFE SCORNED** Executives at ABC are reportedly working on a peace offering intended to convince former Desperate Housewives star Nicollette Sheridan to drop her $20 million lawsuit against the show and its creator, Marc Cherry, according to the Sunday Express.

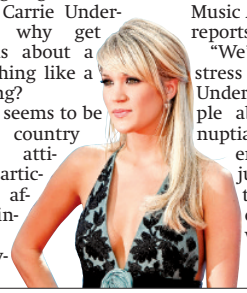
"Our legal team is working to get both sides together to see if they can help broker a compromise," a source says.

"This doesn't mean that anyone is going to hand Nicollette $20 million to drop her action and walk away but there are various incentives that might be put on the table."

METRO WORLD NEWS

## Underwood has 'no stress' about wedding details

**BESIDES, THOSE ARE THE THINGS US WEEKLY TAKES CARE OF** With love, life and career going so wonderfully for Carrie Underwood, why get anxious about a little thing like a wedding?



That seems to be the country star's attitude, particularly after winning the coveted entertainer of the year prize for the second straight year at Sunday's 45th Academy of Country Music Awards, people.com reports.

"We're not people who stress about anything," Underwood, 27, told People about planning her nuptials with hockey player Mike Fisher. "We just focus on a few of the main things, and everything is like, whatever."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Cibrian heckled at CMAs

**JESSE JAMES: WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE, PART I** Eddie Cibrian and LeAnn Rimes laughed their way through the orange carpet at Sunday's Academy of Country Music Awards. But it was hardly a laughing matter when he hit the stage, usmagazine.com reports.

When Cibrian, 36, presented an award to Lady Antebellum, people in the press room yelled, "Cheater."

A year ago, Us Weekly broke the news that Rimes, 27, and Cibrian had an affair while shooting a Lifetime movie. A short time later, they announced that their respective marriages — hers to Dean Sheremet; his to Brandi Glanville — were over.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Woods ex headed to boob tube?

**HEH. SEE WHAT I DID THERE?** Tiger Woods' admitted mistress Jamie Jungers and Michelle "Bombshell" McGee, the woman behind the Jesse James/Sandra Bullock split, may have found a way to extend their time in the spotlight.

The pair have reportedly been offered a reality TV series called Celebrity Cheaters, according to TMZ.

Sources say the show would "catch celebrity cheaters with their pants down." The show hasn't been picked up by a network, but its producer, Bobby Goldstein, insists both women have already agreed to participate.

METRO WORLD NEWS

## Madonna raves about Madonna Glee episode

**SHE THOUGHT THE MUSIC WAS GREAT** While she previously said she'd never heard of the show, Madonna has reportedly seen the episode of Glee devoted to her music — and she's impressed.

"I thought the Madonna episode of Glee was brilliant on every level," she tells Us Weekly. "The dialogue and the entire script was genius. I completely appreciated the layers of irony, especially when all those macho boys sang What It Feels Like For A Girl. The entire cast was amazing."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

### CelebTweets

**PINK** is trying to avoid chores, **ELIZA DUSHKU** is experiencing new things, and **JUSTIN BIEBER** is hoping he doesn't get stranded.

@Pink Does anyone wanna unpack my bus for me? Ill give you 5 dollars.
@elizadushku I slept with termites last night. For realz. Some dead, some alive & crawling. Major growth, folks.
@justinbieber this is crazy. the cloud from the volcano in iceland is almost here and they are canceling all the flights...everyone is trying to leave

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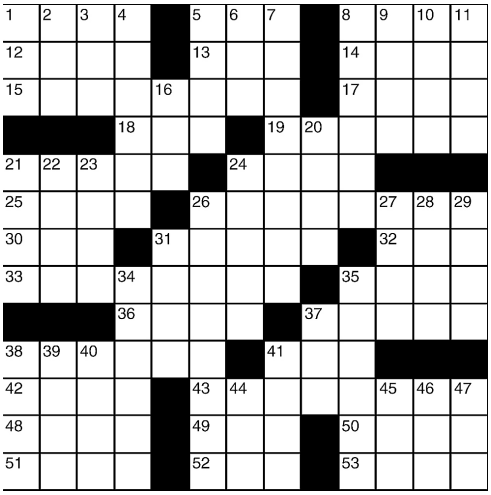
# Take Five



**ACROSS**

1 Actor Pitt
5 Pro
8 Stereo counterpart
12 Tittle
13 Citrus beverage
14 First victim
15 Maryland city
17 Highway
18 Allow
19 Librarians' devices
21 Escargot
24"Goldberg Variations" composer
25 Hemingway sobriquet
26 "Sesame Street" lesson
30 Donkey
31George Harrison's "Isn't It —"
32 Listener
33 Icy desserts
35 British art museum
36 Germany's — Mountains
37 Drunkard
38 Elk
41 Resistance measure
42 Privy to
43 People of Lhasa
48 Showroom sample
49 Anger
50 Medley
51 Rams fans?
52 Wray of "King Kong"
53 Vegan's no-no

**DOWN**

1 Lobster eater's need
2 Fish eggs
3 Lawyer (Abbr.)
4 Pale violet
5 Quick
6 Peculiar
7 Does some more tweaking
8 First First Lady
9 Reed instrument
10 Approach
11Automaker Ransom Eli —
16 Moray, for one
20 Sore
21 Hot tubs
22 Poet Ogden
23 Church section
24Sudden overwhelming bombardment
26 Prepandial potation
27 Actor Bridges
28 Dines on
29 Genealogy chart
31 As blind as —
34 Horned jungle beasts
35 War dance accompaniment
37 That woman
38 Broad
39 From the top
40 Apple, e.g.
41 Do as you're told
44 A Gershwin
45 Hearty quaff
46 Actress Vardalos
47 See 37-Across

## Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | | 8 | | | 4 | 2 | |
| 5 | | | | 6 | | 1 | | 9 |
| 6 | | | | 3 | | | | |
| | 8 | 9 | | | 6 | | 7 | |
| | | | | 2 | | | | |
| | 3 | | 9 | | | 6 | 1 | |
| | | | | 8 | | | | 5 |
| 2 | | 5 | | 9 | | | | 1 |
| | 4 | 7 | | | 2 | | 6 | |

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 |
| 8 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 7 |
| 9 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| 5 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 |

## On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

## Metro Recipe of the Day

### Louisiana Seafood Gumbo

**INGREDIENTS:**

250 g peeled, deveined large shrimp
3 tbsp all-purpose flour
3 tbsp canola oil
1 large onion, chopped
1 red pepper, chopped
4 cloves garlic, minced
3 1/2 cups chicken broth
2 cups okra pods, sliced
2 bay leaves
1 tsp thyme
1/2 tsp cayenne pepper
250 g turkey sausage, sliced
250 g lump crab meat, picked over and flaked
1 cup shucked oysters, undrained

**METHOD:**

1. Rinse shrimp and pat dry; refrigerate. For roux, in heavy Dutch oven, stir together flour and oil until smooth. Cook over moderate heat, stirring constantly, 5 to 7 minutes or until roux is dark brown.
2. Add onion, red pepper and garlic. Cook 8 to 10 minutes or just until vegetables are tender, stirring frequently. Gradually stir in broth. Stir in okra, bay leaves, thyme and cayenne. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, 20 minutes.
3. Add sausage. Simmer, covered, 10 minutes. Add shrimp, crab and oysters. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, uncovered, until shrimp and crab turn opaque. Discard bay leaves. Spoon off fat. Serve with rice.

**SERVES 6**

**rd.ca**

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

**ARIES** ♈
**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**
In recent weeks you have been very much your own boss but as the Sun moves out of your sign you need to be a bit more realistic

**TAURUS** ♉
**APRIL 21-MAY 21**
No matter how many disappointments you may have suffered in recent weeks better times are just around the corner — you can feel them.

**GEMINI** ♊
**MAY 22-JUNE 21**
The Sun moves into the most sensitive area of your chart today and because of that there is a danger you could get a bit depressed. It will pass.

**CANCER** ♋
**JUNE 22-JULY 22**
Don't try to impose your beliefs on other people today because they simply won't listen. They've got their own views after all.

**LEO** ♌
**JULY 23-AUG 23**
As the Sun crosses the mid-heaven angle of your chart today you are sure to feel more ambitious than usual. You can accomplish great things.

**VIRGO** ♍
**AUG 24-SEPT 22**
If you have plans to be on the move over the next few days they are sure to go well. At this time of year you want to break free of restrictions.

**LIBRA** ♎
**SEPT 23-OCT 23**
Over the next few days you will be confronted with some money-making opportunities. It's up to you whether or not you take the risk.

**SCORPIO** ♏
**OCT 24-NOV 22**
The Sun's entry into your opposite sign marks the halfway point of your solar year, making this the ideal time to look back over the past six months.

**SAGITTARIUS** ♐
**NOV 23-DEC 21**
Don't feel envious just because someone has done better than you. Not even a Sagittarius can be Number One all the time.

**CAPRICORN** ♑
**DEC 22-JAN 20**
The past few weeks may have been frustrating but the Sun's change of signs will put a spring in your step and bring a smile to your face.

**AQUARIUS** ♒
**JAN 21-FEB 18**
Your instincts seem to be telling you that there is bad news on the way but don't jump to conclusions.

**PISCES** ♓
**FEB 19-MARCH 20**
Today's challenges may not be enjoyable but you are ready for them and determined and you'll approach them in the right frame of mind

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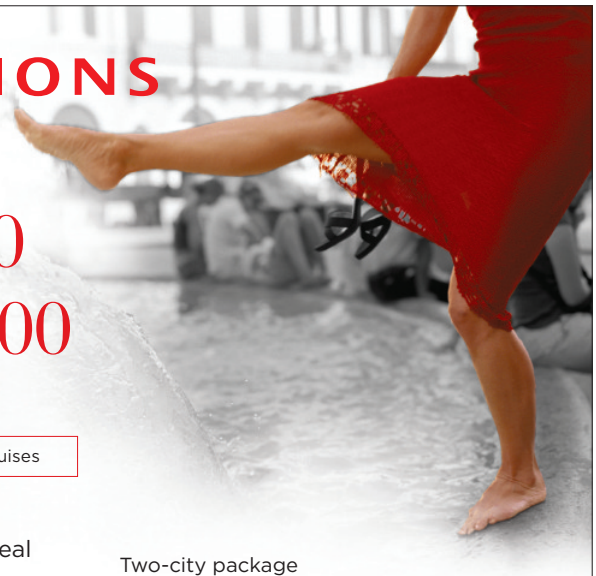

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